



United States  
of America

# Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 117<sup>th</sup> CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 167

WASHINGTON, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 28, 2021

No. 73

## House of Representatives

The House met at 6 p.m. and was called to order by the Speaker.

### PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Margaret Grun Kibben, offered the following prayer:

Almighty God, we pause to approach You keenly aware that our business this evening is not to be the usual political discourse. Rather, tonight, we seek some sense of awareness of where we are, and look for direction as to where we should go as a Nation in these tumultuous times. In short, we wait in collective anticipation of an authoritative and visionary word.

Remind us in this moment that the success of this Union is not to be found in prose or politics, but in Your Word, Your judgment, Your adjudication of our thoughts and the attitudes of our hearts.

Redeem us from our own efforts and call us again as a country by Your name. May we take this opportunity today and every day that follows to humble ourselves and pray for our United States and its leadership. Then hasten us to listen and heed Your guidance.

May we seek Your face, turn from the ways that have threatened our Nation, that you would hear from Heaven and forgive us our sins, and heal our land.

In Your sovereign name, we pray.  
Amen.

### THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to section 11(a) of House Resolution 188, the Journal of the last day's proceedings is approved.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. The Chair will lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The SPEAKER led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

### COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
Washington, DC, April 28, 2021.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,  
*The Speaker, House of Representatives,*  
Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on April 28, 2021, at 4:03 p.m.:

That the Senate passed S. 848.  
Appointments:  
Board of Trustees of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts.  
Election Assistance Commission, Board of Advisors.  
Congressional Award Board.  
With best wishes, I am,  
Sincerely,

CHERYL L. JOHNSON,  
*Clerk.*

### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. After consultation among the Speaker and majority and minority leaders, the Chair announces that, when the two Houses meet tonight in joint session to hear an address by the President of the United States, only the doors immediately opposite the Speaker and those immediately to her left and right will be open.

No one will be allowed in the Hall of the House except for invited Members of Congress, other invitees and credentialed staff members. All

invitees and staff are required to follow the COVID protocols stated by the Sergeant at Arms in consultation with the Office of the Attending Physician.

All seating for the joint session will be assigned by name, both on the floor of the House and in the House gallery. Members will be required to sit in their assigned seat and the Sergeant at Arms will assist Members in finding their seats.

All Members are reminded to refrain from engaging in still photography or audio or video recording in the Chamber. Taking unofficial photographs detracts from the dignity of the proceedings and presents security and privacy challenges for the House.

### RECESS

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 8:35 p.m. for the purpose of receiving in joint session the President of the United States.

Accordingly (at 6 o'clock and 4 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 2036

### JOINT SESSION OF CONGRESS PURSUANT TO HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 30 TO RECEIVE A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker at 8 o'clock and 36 minutes p.m.

The Assistant to the Sergeant at Arms, Ms. Kathleen Joyce, announced the Vice President and Members of the U.S. Senate, who entered the Hall of the House of Representatives, the Vice President taking the chair at the right of the Speaker, and the Members of the Senate the seats reserved for them.

The SPEAKER. The joint session will come to order.

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



Printed on recycled paper.

H2117